Attorney Docket No. 5490-000361 Biomet Docket No.: ART 0648/A-085

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A suture anchor comprising:

a bone anchoring portion; and

a suture securing portion coupled to the bone anchoring portion,

the suture securing portion having an eyelet through which a suture is threaded,

wherein the eyelet has a surface finish provided by a first coating process that

increases the life of the suture.

2. The suture anchor of claim 1, wherein the first coating process is a

titanium anodize process.

3. The suture anchor of claim 1, wherein the first coating process is a

titanium nitride process.

4. The suture anchor of claim 1, wherein the surface finish increases

the life of the suture.

5. The suture anchor of claim 1, wherein the surface finish reduces

wear of the suture.

6. The suture anchor of claim 1, wherein the surface finish does not

result in a dimensional change of the eyelet.

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7. The suture anchor of claim 1, wherein the surface finish increases

lubricity of the eyelet.

8. The suture anchor of claim 1, wherein the surface finish increases

fatigue strength of the eyelet.

9. The suture anchor of claim 2, wherein the bone anchoring portion

has a surface finish provided by a second coating process.

10. The suture anchor of claim 9, wherein the second coating process

is a titanium anodize process.

11. The suture anchor of claim 9, wherein the second coating process

is a titanium nitride process.

12. The suture anchor of claim 1, wherein the bone anchoring portion

includes anchoring formations.

13. The suture anchor of claim 12, wherein the anchoring formations

are selected from the group consisting of barbs, ridges, threads, grooves and

spikes.

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14. The suture anchor of claim 1, wherein the bone anchoring portion is

integral with the suture securing portion.

15. The suture anchor of claim 1, wherein the bone anchoring portion

and the suture securing portion are separate portions.

16. The suture anchor of claim 1, wherein the suture anchoring portion

has a surface finish provided by the first coating process.

17. A method of surface treatment for a suture anchor, the method

comprising:

providing a bone anchoring portion coupled to a suture securing

portion;

forming a suture eyelet in the suture securing portion;

treating the eyelet with a first coating process that provides a

surface finish, the surface finish increasing the life of a suture threaded through

the eyelet.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the first coating process is a

titanium anodize process.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein the first coating process is a

titanium nitride process.

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20. The method of claim 17, wherein the surface finish increases the life of the suture.

21. The method of claim 17, wherein the surface finish reduces wear of the suture.

22. The method of claim 17, wherein the surface finish increases lubricity of the eyelet.

23. The method of claim 17, wherein the surface finish does not result in a dimensional change of the eyelet.

- 24. The method of claim 17, wherein the surface finish increases fatigue strength of the eyelet.
- 25. The method of claim 17, wherein the bone anchoring portion is integral with the suture securing portion.
- 26. The method of claim 17, wherein the bone anchoring portion includes anchoring formations.
- 27. The method of claim 17, further comprising treating the suture securing portion with the first coating process.

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28. The method of claim 27, wherein the first coating process is a

titanium anodize process.

29. The method of claim 27, wherein the first coating process is a

titanium nitride process.

30. The method of claim 17, further comprising treating the bone

anchoring portion with a second coating process that provides a surface finish.

31. A suture anchoring system comprising:

a suture anchor including a bone anchoring portion and a suture

securing portion coupled to the bone anchoring portion, the suture securing

portion having an eyelet;

a suture threaded through the eyelet; and

an eyelet surface finish that increases the life of the suture, the

surface finish provided by a first coating process.

32. The suture anchoring system of claim 31, wherein the first coating

process is a titanium anodize process.

33. The suture anchoring system of claim 31, wherein the first coating

process is a titanium nitride process.

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34. The suture anchoring system of claim 31, wherein the bone

anchoring portion is integral with the suture securing portion.

35. The suture anchoring system of claim 31, wherein the bone

anchoring portion includes anchoring formations.

36. The suture anchoring system of claim 31, wherein the surface finish

does not result in a dimensional change of the eyelet.

37. The suture anchoring system of claim 31, wherein the suture

securing portion has a surface finish that is provided by the first coating process.

38. The suture anchoring system of claim 31, wherein the bone

anchoring portion has a surface finish that is provided by a second coating

process.

40. The suture anchoring system of claim 31, wherein the suture

anchor has a surface finish that is provided by the first coating process.